Amendments to the Claims:

1 - 20. (canceled)

21. (new): A method of authenticating an identification document, wherein the identification document comprises a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document and a machine-readable code, said method comprising:

obtaining data representing the machine-readable code, wherein the machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding the authorized bearer of the document, and

a second portion including information corresponding to a jurisdiction or issuer that issued the identification document; and

determining authenticity of the identification document with reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.

22. (new): The method of claim 21 wherein the machine-readable code is provided on the identification document so that its presence is not readily apparent to human observers of the identification document, yet can be detected from optical scan data generated by optical scanning of the identification document.

23. (new): The method of claim 21 wherein the machine-readable code comprises steganographic encoding.

24. (new): The method of claim 21 wherein the machine-readable code comprises digital watermarking.

25. (new): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 21.

26. (new): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 23.

27. (new): An apparatus comprising:

electronic processing circuitry; and

memory, wherein said memory comprises instructions executable by said electronic processing circuitry, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 21.

28. (new): An apparatus comprising:

electronic processing circuitry; and

memory, wherein said memory comprises instructions executable by said electronic processing circuitry, said instructions comprising instructions to carry out the method of claim 23.

29. (new): A method of providing an identification document comprising:

providing a photographic image of an authorized bearer of the document on a

document surface; and

providing a machine-readable code on the identification document, wherein the

machine-readable code comprises:

a first portion including information corresponding the authorized bearer

of the document, and

a second portion including information corresponding to a jurisdiction or

issuer that issued the identification document;

whereby authenticity of the identification document is determined with

reference to at least the first portion and the second portion.

30. (new): The method of claim 29 wherein the machine-readable code is

provided on the identification document so that its presence is not readily apparent to

human observers of the identification document, yet can be detected from optical scan

data generated by optical scanning of the identification document.

31. (new): The method of claim 29 wherein the machine-readable code

comprises steganographic encoding.

32. (new): The method of claim 29 wherein the machine-readable code

comprises digital watermarking.

33. (new): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instruction to carry out the method of claim 29.

34. (new): A computer readable medium comprising executable instructions stored thereon, said instructions comprising instruction to carry out the method of claim 31.

35. (new): An identification document provided according to claim 29.

36. (new): An identification document provided according to claim 31.